

THE FLYER

volume 30 issue 15

13 february 2003

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY CAMPUS PAPER

The Bernstein award offers \$5K grant

By Caroline Watson

Enterprising business-owners-to-be at SU are invited to enter the Bernstein Award Competition. The competition awards a prize of \$5,000 for the best business plan by a student. It has been offered to Salisbury students annually since 1987.

Richard Bernstein, a local entrepreneur, made the competition possible through his contribution. Since then, many business schools have given students the same opportunity. All Salisbury students, despite their major, are encouraged to enter the competition.

Students in the past have come up with a large assortment of business proposals, including a daycare center by the name of Tender Heart, a marina in North Carolina called Blue Marlin Marina, and the well-known local Mexican restaurant, Nacho Pete's. Nacho Pete's was a business proposal by Pete Engler, an '89 graduate of SU. Last year, student Adam Peno won with his business proposal, The Hitch Man, an expansion of a trailer sales and towing center his parents already owned.

Stephen Adams, the Bernstein Award Competition coordinator for this year, encourages students with all different majors to be in the competition. He suggests

that students from different fields may team up and work together.

The first place winner receives \$5,000 to spend at his or her discretion. Adams said many of the businesses that have been proposed in the past haven't even been started.

"Even if they don't win the award, automatically they are getting this free advice on how to hone their idea," Adams said. Not only do students get helpful tips from successful businesswomen and men judging the competition, but the competition also looks good on a resume.

Last year there were only a handful of people that entered, increasing the odds of winning. However, Adams reminds students there is a lot of work involved.

"This is not something you can just crank out over the weekend," Adams said.

George Rubenson, coordinator of the competition for the past five years, said many companies don't last because their business idea is not well thought out. Rubenson said that starting a business is a long-term developmental process.

Even though a very low percentage of companies do launch, Rubenson agrees with Adams that the competition is a great opportunity for students to under-



Nacho Pete's: an original Bernstein award winner.

Photo by Michelle Bennett

stand how to start a business.

"[Students] will have to do this before they start a business, so they might as well do this competition," said Rubenson.

Some students suggested various business ideas like an ice skating rink, a drive-through beer store and a tattoo parlor. However, Adams said that there is no magic formula in choosing a business that is right for the town.

Justin Hunsinger, a sophomore business major, is thinking about entering the competition. He said he wants to enter

because he likes to compete and thinks the competition will look good on a resume.

"I'm thinking of a super top secret business plan," said Hunsinger. "So no one can know about it, but let me tell you, it is so good to know."

All students are encouraged to enter. 1-2 page proposals are due on Feb. 24 in room 100 of Holloway Hall. For more information, contact Stephen Adams at sbadams@salisbury.edu.

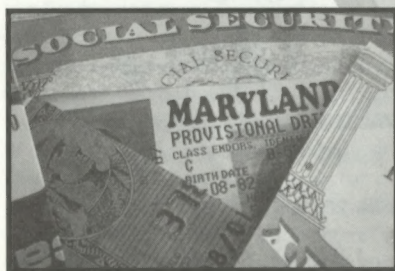


Photo by Michelle Bennett

Constant use of SSN's at SU could create a future problem with identity theft.

By Bryan Shone

The Salisbury University Faculty Senate encountered early problems with Peoplesoft, SU's new, web-based software package, when they noticed that the social security numbers of various students

popped up at least once. Dr. Natalie Hopson, chair of the SU psychology department, pointed out that the software still included social security numbers as the only number to represent each student.

"We caught this and immediately alerted the administration," said Hopson. "Peoplesoft was a bit embarrassed that the numbers were up there." Hopson said her main concern is that identity theft will occur at SU.

Security tightens as Campus Technology converts to Peoplesoft

"The Faculty Senate was initially told that the problem with social security numbers was not going to be fixed," said Dr. David Parker, chair of the mathematics and computer science department and spokesperson for the SU Faculty Senate.

After the Faculty Senate illustrated

intense concern regarding the issues of security, the administration confirmed that they would clear the social security numbers out of the system and assign random numbers to each student for identification

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Letters from the editor

Constance Mensh
Editor in Chief

As the new editor of the Flyer, I think it would be a great accomplishment to keep SU on its toes; everyone always wondering what new and exciting stories would come out next, then rushing to the newsstands to pick up their copy. However, I never intended to keep everyone guessing about the article they were trying to read after they picked it up.

So, SU, we at the Flyer apologize for the confusion that must have ensued after the publication of last week's edition. Also, to our intrepid reporters, writers and editors, the layout staff and I apologize for our oversight, which was the unfortunate result of formatting difficulties within the software. The contributors to that edition tried very hard to create an outstanding first issue of the semester and their efforts are appreciated.

I promise to work extra hard to ensure that something of this nature does not occur again. My goal remains to improve the paper, not to hinder the ability of our writers to effectively communicate with the

Just kidding.
Trust me, we learn from our mistakes.

By Becki Lee
Copy Editor

After observing the latest spurt of vomit dribbling out of the greedy, salivating mouth of the FOX Network, I've come to the conclusion that reality shows really suck.

Okay, so I watched "Joe Millionaire." But it was more like a bad car crash, or a picture of someone's displayed entrails, where the sight is so disgusting you can't tear your eyes away. Hey, I know! Let's get a construction worker and parade him as heir to a gigantic fortune and see how many women fall for it, while being televised to the entire nation. And then let's stretch this stupid idea as far as it will go, squeezing all the money we can out of it, like some old constipated man. Then again, that's really not so bad, compared to what else FOX has in store for us...

Did any of you see FOX's special "Bridezillas"? It aired a couple weeks ago, and the entire show was based around "nine brides [who] become nightmares and crumble under the stress of planning their weddings." And that's not my embellishment; that's actually part of the advertisement. I honestly don't see the appeal of watching nine women bitch about their fiancés, their dresses, their wedding receptions, their hair... Their behavior was worse than that of a temper-tantrum-throwing-three-year-old. This sort of thing makes me never want to get married. Or at least, never get married on television.

Speaking of getting married on television, you won't believe what else we have to look forward to from FOX! In mere weeks, we will get to watch two people who have never met before get engaged, get to know each other, and then we actually get to watch the live televised wedding. You know what the best (worst) part of this show is? The show's viewers are the ones who decide who gets to marry who, by voting on the finalists. It's called "Married by America." I think I'm going to be sick. Even better was how the commercial for the upcoming show began, capitalizing on the fact that half of all marriages end in divorce. Way to go, America - make money off of something tragic. Like how everyone rushed to make American flags into a moneymaker after 9/11 - red, white, and blue became as good as green in the marketplace. (I know that not everyone was producing American-themed items for the money, and a good number of manufacturers probably did and do have strong feelings of patriotism, but I maintain that far too many people were just trying to make a cheap buck.)

Sure, the bottom line of any business is to make money, but there's only so low you can sink to do it. And FOX is nearing the bottom of morality's Marianas Trench.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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SUPD to offer R.A.D. classes this spring

By Sarah Frantz
News Editor

The Salisbury University Police Department (SUPD) is offering Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) classes for women on campus and in the community during the spring semester.

R.A.D. is an international self-defense organization. The program focuses on personal safety, awareness and risk reduction. Students begin with group discussions and then get hands-on self-defense practice with a live, padded officer.

Sgt. Cinda Howell of SUPD leads the class of women, a mixture of both victims and non-victims of rape and assault. She said that one out of every three women would be sexually assaulted in a lifetime.

"This class can give people the belief that you actually could fight back," said Howell.

The system is designed for women who are willing to consider defense as a viable option in situations where their life is in jeopardy. After learning several techniques, a well-padded officer will allow them to practice against an "attacker."

Howell said each R.A.D. student is given a manual along with many flyers



An officer is dressed in protective gear to simulate an attacker.

and risk reduction strategies.

"Awareness is 90% avoidance," said Howell.

During the discussions, Howell asks students where they feel most vulner-

able walking around. The class is also used as a tool for SUPD to learn how they can provide better protection around campus. She encourages students to use the escort system, where they can call the university

police and an officer will come to walk them to their destination. Howell said the most common occurrence around here is acquaintance rape. With acquaintance rape, the assailant is usually somebody the victim knows, but the attack is still considered rape.

Other universities around the country offer credit for taking the R.A.D. class. Howell said she hopes that in the future SU will do the same. Currently, the class is free, but there may be a minor cost in the future to cover the price of manuals and supplies. Each class is limited to 15 students, in order to provide as much hands-on experience as possible for everyone.

Session one runs Feb. 4, 6, 11 and 13 from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. Session two runs April 2, 4, 9, and 11 from 5 p.m. - 8 p.m. Students must plan to attend all four days of either session. For more information, contact Sgt. Cinda Howell at 410-543-6222 or register online at www.salisbury.edu/police/RAD/default.asp.

Photo courtesy of www.salisbury.edu

Students participate in charity event

By Shane Jacobus

Volunteers from SU and UMES offered their services at the 13th Annual Gala of Hope on Saturday, Feb. 8. The Gala is a fundraising event dedicated to the Village of Hope, a local nonprofit organization that sponsors women and children in need of transitional housing or medical care.

The Village of Hope, established in 1991 by the Little Sisters of Jesus and Mary, provides temporary housing for impoverished single women, many of whom have to provide for their children as well as themselves. Beneficiaries usually occupy a single dwelling for two years maximum, paying rent according to their income level.

"The main purpose is to get them to become independent," said Sister Patricia

Lennon, member of Little Sisters of Jesus and Mary.

The Center for Clean Start, a federal program, also rents housing from the Village of Hope. Their goal is to help pregnant women overcome any addictions to ensure the health of their unborn children.

In order to raise enough money to meet its obligations, the Village of Hope hosts an annual social event at the Wicomico Youth and Civic Center. Every year the Gala of Hope draws many contributors and their families with its fine dining and entertainment.

"I thought it was a great experience," said Stephanie Kowalski, sophomore. "We got a chance to serve the community and we had fun doing it."



SU student volunteers for the Gala of Hope

Photo by Shane Jacobus

Peoplesoft

Continued from page 1

purposes.

"All these assurances are fine, but we'd better verify them," said Parker. He said when Peoplesoft is launched, he will search the system in every legally accessible way to make sure that he is not able to view anyone's social security number. "I don't know what is going to happen. I might have access to social security numbers - if so, I'll raise hell," said Parker.

Hopson and Parker agree that the use of social security numbers on campus has become absurd. "Why should anyone else other than payroll or admissions see [social security numbers]?" said Parker. Hopson said that students will usually write their social security numbers down on paper even when they are not instructed to do so.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) has a list of "Special Don'ts" for the use of social security numbers. The list includes such guidelines as "Do not at any time use the entire social security number of a student in a public posting of grades," and "Do not ever link the name of a student with that student's social security number in any public manner."

"We don't follow those rules and

we've gotten away with it for years," said Parker.

Parker said the only reason SU and other schools use social security numbers is because they are convenient. "In this situation, the inconvenience of creating a random number is way offset by the gain in security. Sure, it's convenient to use social security numbers, but you're putting me at risk," said Parker.

"My finance teacher showed grades with social security numbers, and worst of all, the list was alphabetized," said Bryan Geiger, a junior at SU. Social security numbers are also used to sign up for clubs, intramural teams, classes and RA programs, and they are even used to order food from those restaurants that accept the Gull Card.

"The university should respect us as individual students with the personal right to privacy by finding an alternate means of identifying each person," said Erin Kalins, a sophomore. To this end, the administration at SU plans to attach random numbers to each student in the coming semesters.

"The message to the students is to be very, very careful where you use your social security number," said Hopson.

Art of Living Course



February 20-25th

A six-session Art of Living Course taught by David Longnecker, a full-time Art of Living teacher, will be offered in Salisbury from February 20-25. The course teaches powerful stress management techniques which nourish all levels of mind, body, and spirit. Students and other participants report benefits including reduced stress, improved health, heightened enthusiasm, improved concentration, greater creativity and clarity of mind, and more physical energy.

This will be the third course that has been offered to Salisbury students in the past year and a half. Liz Tainter, a former student at Salisbury University says, "The Art of Living course has changed my life. I am more grounded, and have developed a greater sense of self. I flow with life now, and greet people with a compassion and understanding I never knew before. I have been enlightened to life - I have techniques to carry me through the rest of my days with love and awareness. Thank you Art of Living."

According to the Art of Living Foundation Web site, www.artofliving.org, the breathing and meditation practices of the course have been proven in medical studies to be effective in "alleviating anxiety and depression, reducing the blood plasma levels of cortisol (the 'stress hormone') and restoring normal sleep patterns," among other uses. The site states research shows that "this breathing practice not only increases calm and relaxation but also creates a state of heightened awareness and induces improved peace of mind."

Nikki Brown, a Communication Art Major at Salisbury University who took the course last falls says, "The Art of Living Course is a very unique experience. It gives you the tools to heal yourself from anger, stress, and negative vibes in your life. The methods taught are indescribable. The Art of Living taught me how much control I have over my feelings and emotions."

The Art of Living Foundation is an international, nonprofit, educational and humanitarian organization active in over 130 countries around the world. The foundation teaches stress reduction courses using highly effective breathing and meditation techniques that are simple to learn and easy to practice.

Course times are Thursday and Friday, 7-9pm, Saturday and Sunday 9am-3pm and Monday and Tuesday 7-9pm. Participants are required to attend all six sessions. For information, please contact Kate Bassett kab1683@salisbury.edu (443-235-2948), or Chi Chiarizia chichiarizia@earthlink.net. The class is \$250 for adults and \$75 for students.



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Valentine's Day: The truth behind the candy

By Kristina Lawall

In keeping with tradition, millions of Americans across the world will exchange flowers, candy and gifts on Feb. 14 to celebrate one of the most recognized holidays in history. Valentine's Day marks the yearly anniversary of showering affection and sappy sentiments upon one's loved ones.

Over the years, greeting card corporations and chocolate-making industries have catered to those struck by Cupid's arrow. You can bet Hallmark, Hershey and the guys who make those little candy hearts will make bank off romantics around the world this year.

"I've been known to go out and spend a lot of money on Valentine's Day," says Salisbury University sophomore

Priscilla Magalee. "The hearts that say 'Fax Me' on them really get me."

Romantics aren't the only ones suckered into purchasing red-velvet hearts filled with chocolate. It seems that the mysterious St. Valentine has drawn cynics, love-haters and the hopelessly single into his web of commercialized love.

The history of St. Valentine can be summed up in a simple story, but it may not answer why love-crazed maniacs obsess over the perfect gift for their "honey."

According to the History Channel website, the legend begins in Rome during the 3rd century. Our hero (and priest), Valentine became displeased when the current emperor, Claudius II, decided that single countrymen would make better soldiers than husbands, and outlawed marriage.

According to the History Channel, the brave Valentine "realized the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young lovers in secret." Claudius discovered Valentine's actions, and he was sentenced to death.

It is rumored that the young Valentine fell in love with his jailor's daughter while imprisoned, and sent her a letter signed "From Your Valentine." Years later, in seventeenth century Britain, Valentine's Day became wildly popular. "By the middle of the eighteenth century, it was common for friends and lovers in all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes," claims the History Channel.

The rest was history. According to the Greeting Card Association, "an estimated one billion valentine cards are sent

each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year."

St. Valentine's story brings some light into what was once an unknown topic by many. Now SU students can understand what compels their romantic predispositions on what is considered just a "day" by many.

But the bigger question remains. Who has more fun on V-Day, women or men? Women purchase over 85 percent of the valentines sold, according to the Greeting Card Association. That may lead to some answers, but let's see what SU students have to say...

Photo by Michelle Bennett

She says...

By Chris Weymont

How do girls at SU feel about Valentine's Day?

"Even though Valentine's Day is a made up holiday, it's nice if you have someone to share it with," says Amy Cerulli, an art major.

"I think that you should show your love everyday, so why make such a big deal about one day of the year?" asks Kelly Goodwin, a junior at S.U. "If it's love, everyday would be just as special as the next!"

For those who do visualize Valentine's Day as an exclusive day of romance, expectations may be placed.

"For me, there would be no expectations," says Lisa Duvak, an elementary education major, "because I would like a surprise of some sort. I would expect the unexpected."

Men are being worked up into a frenzy thinking about where to take a girl. What men do not know is that girls could be a puzzle already solved in terms of a Valentine's Day date.

"Forget about expensive dinners out, dozen roses, candy and stuffed animals... those are cries for romantic help," says student Stephanie Joy Howard. "A few years ago I made my boyfriend a coupon book filled with coupons for breakfast-in-bed, movie night, taco bell, etc....just random stuff that we both would enjoy."

"It feels good to feel wanted, al-

though it is a Hallmark holiday," says Katie Hutchinson, an elementary education major at SU. "Why not? Everyone wants to be loved!"

Much like St. Valentine, girls are shrouded in mystery. Knowing what to say and do on the day of romance can be very frustrating to guys. Even when the date is going well, there is always the "what to do after dinner" scenario. Going to a bar does not seem very appealing on a Valentine's Day. "Eh, the bar after dinner," says senior Julie Satriano. "If it's my boyfriend, we're going back to my place and having mad sex."

Valentine's Day falls on Friday this year, making it easier for relaxation without the worrying of the big test the next day.



Love is in the air.

By Kristina Lawall

Senior Justin Gallo described his sentiments boldly when asked what Valentine's Day meant to him.

"Nothing," he replied with a laugh. Gallo isn't the only man on campus left with an empty feeling when V-Day is mentioned. According to one anonymous SU student, the nationally recognized day of love "is the most worthless holiday for a guy."

The truth finally comes out. Valentine's Day makes grown men cry for their mothers and go insane with shopping paranoia. So who has it rougher, the contently coupled or the significantly single male? "I have never been in a relationship during V-Day, which is kind of depressing," says Nick Deiss, SU communication arts major.

According to some male undergrads, being single on V-Day isn't the end of the world.

"My best friend Jen and I have the typical 'Will and Grace' date," says Deiss. "We celebrate by going out to dinner." Deiss says that going out with friends is a lot of fun and a good way to celebrate being single.

"I like Valentine's Day," says Grant Dorsey, sophomore and business administration major. "I like it even more when I have a girlfriend."

Dorsey explains that there are much better date ideas than just going to a

movie. For individuals who are currently emerged in significant-other-status, Valentine's Day ideas are often hard to come by. Date and gift inspirations are highly coveted by young men with insatiable girlfriends.

"I took a girl to a tractor pull. We got all dressed up, and that was the most fun ever," says Dorsey, a native of Frederick, MD. "We took a camera to take pictures of all the mullets."

A unique individual, Dorsey believes that originality is the best way to go for a gift idea. Dorsey once dated a girl who frequently told a joke about a polar bear in a green thong. "I went and got a white teddy bear and a green thong, and actually fixed the thong to fit the teddy bear," says Dorsey. "That was pretty cool."

Male students looking for a softer side to Valentine's Day can always follow the advice of sophomore Chris Marrow. In the past, Valentine's Day usually led to feelings of indifference, according to Marrow, because "he wasn't 'valentizing' anyone."

"Wine and dinner is a good idea for V-Day, but it's not a necessity for a successful relationship," says Marrow. Single and looking for a man who appreciates Valentine's Day? If anyone is willing to settle for an honest effort (like a Monster Truck Rally), Grant Dorsey is your man. Sorry ladies, Chris Marrow is already taken.

Interview with Assistant to the President, Dr. Ellen Zinner Regarding 4-to-2 and SU

By Sonia Thompson

Q: "What is your opinion of the new 4-to-2 law? Do you think it is fair?"

A: I certainly appreciate that neighbors have issues about neighborhoods changing from most homes being lived in by the owner, to most homes being rented. So I think that is a legitimate issue. I think that the way it came about and the way it was argued was clearly about our students. And when you pick out any group, whether it's going to be students or males or a particular race or people with dogs on leases, I think that's prejudicial. I thought, not the issue, but the way it was handled and how it was argued that it was definitely in reference to our students. And I was not at all happy about that and I can tell you the president was not at all happy about that.

Q: Do you feel that 4-to-2 was directed at the students?

A: Oh, yes! I do think it was directed. It wasn't where the students had been living. It was as the landlords bought homes in the neighborhoods closer to campus and it appeared that more and more homes were being bought and turned into rentals. People who were very articulate and who could mobilize their concerns were the ones that won the day, but I think that it was very much about our students.

Q: Do you think that students have contributed to any of the problems in the community?

A: I think that rentals in general are an issue for homeowners. It doesn't have to be this way; but because rental homes are not kept up, lawns are not kept up the way they are with homeowners. I think that rental properties have an issue all by themselves. Multiple single people bring more cars and there are only so many parking places on the street. There are now four and five people trying to park their cars, so that's an issue. I think the other issues of noise and parties are in the minority. I think that is easy to point at a party one weekend. And that's not right, that's just not right. It is really much more about rental properties changing the nature of a neighborhood, where most of the homes are homeowners with families.

Q: How is the school going to provide housing for students, once the 4-to-2 is completely in effect?

A: We expect by 2004 there will be 600 more beds. We have just had a Request of Proposal for a new public/private housing. That's what University Park is. The land was purchased and given to the University, so we own the land—that's the public part. The private part is a private developer builds it and manages it. We got per-

mission from the Board of Regents to build another 300 bed of public/private. And there was a Request of Proposal, the committee has met and the award has gone to University Park, the same people who are going to be building behind and beside them. Only the bid was to build a variety of apartments, some of which will be four bedrooms with four baths, two bedrooms with two baths and four bedrooms with two baths. The ones that are considered the best will have higher rent. They have promised a parking space for every bed and an additional 154 to ease the parking problems.

Another builder totally private will be coming in Fruitland. It's a large project, with 300 beds. It's a little bit past Wal-Mart, about a mile away. From recent studies, students are concerned about location and price. This is not as convenient as University Park, but there will be some kind of apartment variety and it should be a very nice complex. So we know that there will be 600 new beds opening up in Fall '04. That project will continue to add beds down in Fruitland.

Q: How would the school handle priority with the students between living in University Park and on campus?

A: The priority goes to first-time students. After that, Kathy Grout would know that answer. It is a little bit more expensive to live at University Park than on campus, but on the other hand you can have your own food and you are not obligated to buy a meal plan. I think that there will still be students that want to live in homes and either they are going to live with two or have to go farther away.

Q: Do you think that on-campus living expenses will be raised because of the 4 to 2 law?

A: No, not because of the 4-to-2. I don't know if on campus expenses will be raised, because of expenses going up. But in terms of 4-to-2, absolutely not. There will be no relationship between the 4-to-2 resolution and our taking advantage of it.

Q: Do you think that the new 4-to-2 law will affect prospective students coming here, in the future?

A: That's a good question for me to ask you. I don't know if the high school students have the wherewithal to find out that this kind of bill is here. On the other hand, if our students are unhappy on how they are being treated by the city of Salisbury or about the 4-to-2 resolutions, and word gets to other high school students, their friends, counselors, then yes, it would have an effect. I think that students here are very, very happy with the education and

the experience. More and more we are first choice schools, so I don't think that it is going to have an effect. I think that students don't realize the impact of it until they are sophomores and juniors.

This whole situation is not an issue limited to Salisbury. As schools grow and as students reach their sophomore or junior year, they want to move off-campus. This is happening over and over. Even the 4-to-2 resolution itself is not unique; it exists in other communities.

When developers approach us and say, "What do you think about this?" we give them the study on what students want. We will provide a constant bus shuttle service, so that students don't have to have a car and can live there. And we also promise a network attachment to our internet. Those things cost us, but we want to do everything we can. What we can't do readily is build more resident halls. We will not get any money from the state from that. Unless we up the fee, but we don't want to do that now. Tuition has already gone up and we don't want to put any additional burden on our students.

Q: Do you think that there is any way that the law will be reversed or amended in the future?

A: It's certainly possible. They passed a law. They can un-pass a law. They pass a law. They can amend a law. Absolutely there could be, just as it's passed, so it can be changed.

Q: Do you think that there is anything remaining that the students can do?

A: I was very impressed with what the students did do. I was very impressed with the organization and the thoughtfulness with which the students recognized this issue that affected them personally. I believe one thing that students are allowed to do is register to vote. If you are a voter, you have a stronger [control] on who gets on the city council; one of our own could be elected. So having a political clout always makes a difference. I don't know that the students have maximized the degree to which their political clout in this city could be filled.

Q: Anything that you feel is important to add?

A: I want the students to know that the president is very concerned about what has happened and is very concerned in providing housing that supports the students and the kind of housing that they want and is affordable. The reason they are here is to learn, not just in the classroom, but outside the classroom as well.

What Does your Candy Heart Say?

By Abby Finestine and Sonia Thompson

- Your favorite holiday is:
A: Valentine's Day
B: Your birthday
C: Bah, humbug!
- Your perfect Valentine's Day is:
A: Eating Chinese food and watching movies
B: Having a candle lit dinner with your loved one
C: Getting some nookie
- You wake up the day after Valentine's Day with:
A: A hangover
B: A hickey
C: Gifts galore
- Your ideal Valentine's Day gift is:
A: Something from the heart
B: Condoms
C: I've never gotten a gift but I would like something useful, like nail clippers
- What song represents your Valentine's Day mood?
A: REM: "Everybody Hurts"
B: Marvin Gaye: "Let's Get It On"
C: Bryan Adams: "Everything I Do"
- Could you see yourself getting married?
A: If someone loved me
B: I could get married today!
C: Oh, Hell no!
- What would you be wearing on Valentine's Day?
A: Obviously nothing
B: Sweats
C: A classy outfit
- Who is the first person you call when you wake up on Valentine's Day?
A: Your mom
B: I scroll down my cell phone list and randomly pick a name
C: Your sweetie
- You prepare for Valentine's Day by:
A: Ripping the month off the calendar
B: I saved my money for weeks to buy the perfect outfit
C: I put silk sheets on my bed
- What's your favorite class?
A: Lit: Shakespeare
B: Psych of Sex
C: History 101

The truth behind Book Buy Back

By Abby Finestine

At the end of every semester students are eager to return their books. They are hopeful that they will get some of the money back that they spent in the beginning of the semester. In attempting to return books students usually walk away angry and upset. The Book Rack hardly ever accepts all the textbooks and very rarely gives students a comparable amount of money.

"I bought eight books for only five classes and they only bought back one book for seven dollars, and three of [the books I bought] were brand new," said junior Ron Puloskie. Although students feel they are being cheated, the SU Bookstore has an explanation for why it takes back so few books and gives back only a small portion of money.

In the beginning of the semester, every professor is given a book form to tell the Book Rack whether or not the same book will be used for the following semester. If the teacher decides to use the same book, the bookstore follows a certain procedure to decide how many books to buy back.

Kaaren Kundell, textbook manager, looks at the following semester schedule to determine how many books she feels will be needed for the students.

"If there is an estimated number of 70 books needed, then the first 70 students who return their books will receive retail price," she says. "Retail price is half of what the new book selling price was."

"I bought a book that cost me \$180, and only got \$40 back," says junior Josh Powell. "It's ridiculous." Those students who do not receive retail price sell their books back for wholesale value.

"We deal with three main book companies and they are the ones that determine the wholesale price," Kundell says. "Those books are then shipped to the company because we do not need them."

Students like Elizabeth Moran say they feel it is better to keep a textbook for future reference.

"It's a waste of money to return books because I have never gotten all of my

money back," she says.

"Most books have a lifespan of only three years, so once that third year is up a new book will be issued," Kundell says. If a new book is issued or teachers decide to use a different book, the Book Rack will not buy it back unless the manufacturers need them. If the book company needs them, then the bookstore can sell it buy it back for wholesale value.

Sophomores Becki Lee and Rachel Rowe are currently creating a website that will help students ease their book woes. The planned service, hosted on Lee's personal site, will be called "The Underground Bookstore @ SU" and will allow students to buy and sell used books.

Similar to the way Campus Bulletin works, students will be able to post information to the web about books they are interested in buying and selling, along with basic contact information. Campus email can then be used to contact a potential buyer or seller. Lee and Rowe plan to have this website up and running by the end of the semester.

Daredevil launches into theatres

By Brian Zitzelman

Instead of the normal Valentine's Day hoopla, this February 14 will greet the release of the film "Daredevil."

"Daredevil" is the latest in a string of major comic book films by Marvel Studios, including "X-men" and last year's mega-hit "Spider-man." The film has received a large buzz from the movie watching community and is expected to be a massive hit. "Daredevil" stars Ben Affleck in the title role as blind lawyer Matt Murdock. Murdock makes up for his visual imparity with an array of enhanced senses, such as the ability to hear another individual's heart patterns from a distance.

The cast also includes "Alias" star Jennifer Garner as the ninja Elektra, "Minority Report's" Collin Farrell as assassin Bullseye, and "The Green Mile's" Michael Clarke Duncan as the mob boss Kingpin. The choice of Duncan as Kingpin has risen some controversy, due to the comic version of the character being white.

"Some people are purists to a ridiculous degree," says junior Jared Espenschied. "Others are overly concerned with appearances over substance."

"Daredevil" is considered a major hurdle in the realm of comic films for Marvel. While well-known characters such as the X-men and Spider-man have done well

in their respective movies, Daredevil is a much lesser known character. The movie does appear to be garnering a significant amount of interest.

"I've never read the comic, but I still want to see the movie," says freshman Emily Reeks. "I just like that kind of action movie."

The die-hard comic fans will have high expectations for the movie. While other comic films have been considered well done, many feel that "Daredevil" will be much tougher to adapt right. One reason for this is the darker and grittier nature of the comic's characters and dramas. For instance, the recent 12 issue "Daredevil" arc, by Brian Michael Bendis and Alex Maleev, focused not on battling a super powered foe but rather the media, after his secret identity was sold to a newspaper by a crooked cop.

Stan Lee is the creator of the majority of Marvel characters that have had films made of them, including the upcoming "Hulk" movie. Lee has made a cameo as a random hot dog vendor in "X-Men" and some guy screaming at a fair in "Spider-man."

"Daredevil" is being cited as the first big film of 2003. It is also the first in a line of major comic films this year for Mar-

vel on other comic companies. How successful it is will surely have an impact on the comic film genre.



Answers to the Love Quiz Add up your points to find out what your candy says.

- A=1 B=2 C=3
- A=3 B=1 C=2
- A=3 B=1 C=2
- A=1 B=2 C=3
- A=3 B=2 C=1
- A=3 B=1 C=2
- A=2 B=3 C=1
- A=3 B=2 C=1
- A=3 B=1 C=2
- A=1 B=2 C=3

Your Candy Heart Says..... Love Struck 1- 11 Points

You were definitely struck with Cupid's arrow. You have been planning for Valentine's Day for the past month to make sure everything is perfect. You spent your last three paychecks on your sweetie's gifts. Don't overdo it, because you will need the money for beer and Taco Bell next weekend. It's ok to enjoy Valentines Day, but you might want to turn it down a notch.

Get Some 12- 20 Points

So, you're one of those people who thinks about the opposite sex every other minute. You don't have much of a romantic side but you still utilize this holiday the best way you know how. You spend the afternoon calling random people on your cell phone. You clean your room and go to the grocery store to get chocolate syrup and whip cream. Have all the fun that you want, just be careful...repercussions may come nine months later.

Valentine's Day can SUCK IT 21-30 Points

So...You're one of those people who hate Valentine's Day. Don't worry; we all know it's just a holiday to boost the economy anyways. It gives Hallmark a reason to create all those dumb mushy cards. You would much rather curl up on the couch in sweats watching a movie and eating food. We recommend...Meet the Parents, because it parallels your hatred for relationships.

Overheard

"What do you think about Reality T.V. shows?"



"I think there are too many of them and it's beginning to look ridiculous. You can't turn on the television without seeing them on every channel."

Aameena Olaleye Sophomore



"It depends on the show. The 'Real World' is cool, but it's getting old. 'Joe Millionaire' is tight. Remember 'Temptation Island'? That was awesome. I guess it's just the idea of the show. It shouldn't be overdone with too many seasons."

James Gurick Junior



"I wouldn't mind being part of 'Eliminate'."

Tara Euler Senior



"I think they're stupid and pointless. However, the guys are attractive."

Abbie Barrie Sophomore



"I've always watched 'Real World' and I recently got hooked on 'Joe Millionaire' because he's hot."

Jamie Hoagland Senior



"They suck."

Kain Slowikowski (Mac Daddy) Junior



"They're fun, but they are definitely a fad. They are going to get old. I mean, people are getting married on T.V. That's ridiculous."

Diana Giattino Senior



"I love it. I'm the next 'American Idol' - I have the best voice."

Craig Lafferty Junior



"I think there are too many of them. That's all there is on T.V. now. Television needs to cut back."

Mike Spencer Sophomore



"'Joe Millionaire' is cool. That's some funny shit. 'American Idol' is good only when the people suck. We need more guys with slits up their pants on T.V."

Jesse Henderson (Big Poppa) Junior



"I don't think it depicts the real world."

Chris Newton Freshman

The Bury's top 5 happy hour spots

By Rob Goszkowski

This article was written after exhaustive journalistic investigation that has left this writer with a throbbing head and vague memories, but man, has it been fun. Keep in mind that this is one person's opinion coupled with the input of other students so it's a given that some will disagree with the ranking. Several aspects of each bar/restaurant were taken into consideration such as the value of the specials (namely, how cheap the drinks are), the atmosphere and any other incentives to go such as bar or games. The list may surprise you.

1. Webster's Chesapeake Steakhouse: Thursdays 4-7
Located on Route 13 North, next to Best Western about one mile before the mall.

When I told people Webster's was getting the number one nod, most people

responded with something to the effect of, "What? Where's that?" One of the DJs, known together as the "Other Blues Brothers," put it eloquently when he said it's the best place to "Get fat, happy and drunk!"

He wasn't kidding. With the purchase of two drinks, you get treated to a free buffet from 4-6 that offers popcorn shrimp, wings, roast beef-au-jus, Swedish meatballs and veggies. The drinks are cheap, too. Drafts are \$1.25; rails are \$2.25 and always pack a punch. The service is as good as the special.

Webster's has a quality atmosphere and is slightly upscale with a predominately older crowd. I recommend sitting outside on their patio when the weather's nice.

2. Rick's Place: Monday-Friday 4-6
Located on Route 13 North, at the

bottom of the overpass across from Pep Boys.

Rick's Place deserves the number one spot for a lot of reasons, but it's hard to beat free food for a broke college student. Let it also be known that Rick's reputation as a local redneck bar where you can expect to get into a fight is unfounded and ridiculous. "The last fight we had in here was at least five years ago," says Fred the bartender.

So why is Rick's a close second? Two reasons: Rick's, by far, has the best atmosphere of any bar I've been to in Salisbury. The bartender and customers were friendly as hell and made me feel like a regular on my first visit. Second, they have some of the cheapest beer you'll ever drink. You won't believe this: 70-cent drafts (and that's real pints, not little plastic cups) and three-dollar pitchers (with five beers to

a pitcher) of Miller Lite, Bud and Michelob. Read that again. It's actually cheaper to go to Rick's Place and buy pitchers than it is to buy a twelve-pack of the same beer from a store.

The atmosphere of Rick's has an unbeatable laid-back, local bar feel to it. We went on a Wednesday and there weren't many folks there, but myself and the two girls with me didn't get so much as a funny look from anyone. The locals don't mind drinking with college students either.

Rick's also has two pool tables, Golden Tee 2003, Ms. Pac Man and Galaga, pinball, a jukebox and a shuffleboard table so there's plenty to do.

Continued on page 9

Crime Beat

Compiled by Sarah Frantz

01/30/03 01:00 a.m.

Public Urination

An officer found a student urinating in the bushes near the front of Blackwell Library. The student was identified and released.

01/30/03 12:15 p.m.

Damaged property

A student reported that the right side mirror was knocked loose on a vehicle while parked in the St. Martin lot.

01/31/03 02:30 p.m.

Theft

A resident of Severn Hall reported that a book bag and contents were stolen

from near the cashier's station at the Commons.

02/01/03 06:15 a.m.

Disorderly Conduct

It was reported that someone had defecated in the hallway on the 3rd floor of Wicomico Hall. Through investigation the suspect was identified as a resident of the building. Administrative action is pending.

02/01/03 05:56 p.m.

Suspicious Person

A student reported that a man was in the library and he was acting in a manner that made her suspicious. An officer responded to the library and identified the man as a visitor and a student at another Maryland university. The man was released after providing identification.

Campus Blurbs

Compiled by Constance Menseh

Announcements

GRADUATION APPLICATION DEADLINE: All undergraduate students who plan to complete degree requirements in December 2003 or winter term 2004 must complete an Application for Diploma by Friday, March 7, 2003, in the Office of the Registrar. For information call 410-543-6150.

Campus Events

Exhibit "Of Liquid and Light" features the glassblowing talents of SU instructor Daniel Marder. The installation will run until Feb. 14 in the Fulton Hall Gallery. Admission is free and open to the public. For more information call 410-548-2457.

Local students exhibit art in the third

annual presentation of the Wicomico County School System Visual and Performing Art Program. The exhibit is featured in the GUC's Atrium Gallery from Feb. 11-21, Tues.-Fri., 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. For more information call 410-548-2547.

Musical performance by the Jazz Ambassadors of the U.S. Army Field Band from Washington D.C. to be held Monday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. at Holloway Hall Auditorium. Two free tickets per person are available starting Monday, Feb. 10, at the GUC information desk. For more information call 410-543-6271.

Career Service's Job and Internship Fair will be held Thursday, Feb. 20, 2003 from 12-4 p.m. throughout the first floor of the GUC, featuring almost 120 organizations.

Happy Hour

Continued from page 8

3. Tia's Tex-Mex: 7 Days 4-7
Located on Route 13 North, in front of the mall.

Tia's happy hour is always a good time and has one of the best drink specials in town. Margaritas are \$1.99 and drafts are 99 cents. They have four different types of margaritas, so you'll have no problem finding an excuse to drink several of them. The standard "on the rocks" is always good. They also offer strawberry, sangria, regular, or sangria and regular swirled frozen margaritas. The free chips and salsa is an added incentive to stick around.

The atmosphere has that typical, tex-mex chain restaurant feel, but that's not necessarily a bad thing. Their happy hour is pretty well known and you will probably see other students there if you go. "We get a mixture of older and younger people," says Shea Parsons, a Tia's bartender.

4. Adam's Ribs: Friday 3-6
Located on Route 13 South, just past Wal-Mart.

Adam's is a popular spot for students on Fridays. "Every time I've been here on a Friday it's been pretty packed," says SU student Andy Robson. The happy hour offers \$1.25 drafts and \$3.50 wings that are some of the best in town. I recommend Adam's if you like a crowded party atmosphere where you're guaranteed to run into other people you know.

5. Plaza Tapatia: Monday-Thursday 6-8
Located on Route 13 North, not far from campus.

"We're the only bar in town with 32 oz. beers," says Kat, a bartender at Plaza Tapatia. That fact alone is enough incentive to go for some people. These massive beers are cheap too; Dos Equis is \$2.99 and domestic drafts are \$2.75. They also hook you up with free chips and dip so bar customers have more in their stomach than 32 oz. beers.



Websters placed number one on the Happy Hour top five.

WEEKLY

Crime Beat

02/01/03 04:00 a.m.

Harassment

A resident of Pocomoke Hall reported that a note was written on his message board that was of a harassing nature. The responsible person has been identified and administrative action is pending.

01/30/03 06:15 p.m.

Vandalism/Breaking & Entering

A report was received that a hasp had been broken on a storage room in Chesapeake Hall. Entry was made to the room. Nothing was reported missing at this time.

02/02/03 02:39 a.m.

Alcohol Violation

An officer responded to Nanticoke

Hall in reference to an intoxicated resident. The student was identified as an underage drinker. She refused treatment. Administrative action is pending.

02/05/03 02:00 p.m.

Vandalism/Dummy Mutilation

It was reported to the Flyer that a dummy from the Gulls Nest was decapitated. Anyone with information should contact Public Safety.

Classifieds

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PASTA WITH SEAFOOD honoring Thomas Jefferson
BROWN RICE PILAF honoring Jimmy Carter
CHINESE CABBAGE honoring Richard Nixon
WHITE HOUSE BROCCOLI honoring George Bush
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CORNBREAD a Presidential favorite
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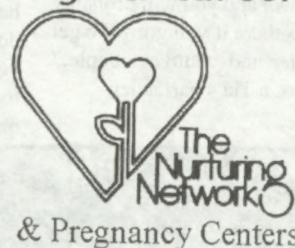
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Womens Basketball Continues Streak

By Matt Rosati

With wins over Catholic and York University last week, the Salisbury women's basketball team improved their record to 18-3 overall (10-0 CAC) while running their winning streak to an impressive ten games.

In the 91-58 trouncing of Catholic, senior All-American Amy Campion led the way with her 13th double-double of the season, registering 25 points and 13 rebounds, while adding six steals in 31 minutes on the floor. Sophomore guard Gen Olds shot five of eight from three point land, leading to a personal season high 23 points. Freshman Christen Barney was the third Gull to score in double digits with 14 points. The Catholic Cardinals were led by the Schnepf sisters, Carol and Gloria, who combined for 31 of the team's 58 points.

Salisbury led 44-26 at halftime and maintained a double-digit lead throughout the second half. The Gulls were able to out-hustle Catholic, scoring 21 points on second chance opportunities, limiting Catholic to only nine. However, it was Salisbury's suffocating team defense that produced 26 points off of turnovers, while forcing the Cardinals to shoot only 32% from the floor. Saturday's match up with 11-10

York proved to be a much more of a challenge than the Gulls may have suspected. Scoring 22 points and grabbing 15 rebounds on her way to her 14th double-double of the season, Campion once again proved why she is regarded as one of the nation's top players.

Trailing 61-55 with 3:37 remaining, Salisbury went on a 6-0 run to tie the score at 61 with 2:21 left. Two free throws by York's Sara Anderson pushed the Spartans ahead 63-62. After a much needed timeout called by Salisbury head coach Bridget Benshetler, the ensuing inbounds play found Campion at the top of the three-point arc. With three feet between her and the nearest defender, Campion was able to drain the trey, giving Salisbury a 65-63 lead. The game was sealed after Pam Kenney pulled down York's tying free-throw attempt with 34 seconds remaining. Salisbury went on to hit the final four free throws of the game while putting the finishing touches on their 69-64 victory.

GAME NOTES:

Salisbury's bench was only able to produce four points, while York was able to get 36 from their back-ups.....Four of



SU's women are on top!

the Gull's five starters scored in double digits; Campion (22) Barney (13), Kiera Watkins (13), Kenney (12)Salisbury has won 15 straight regular season CAC games dating back to last season, and 36 out of their last 38 over the past three years.....Campion leads all Division 3

scorers with 24.4 points per game and is eighth in the nation with 4.7 steals per game.....Salisbury is currently ranked second in the Atlantic region behind Stanton Island University.....The Gulls are ranked 29th in the nation, receiving 17 top 25 votes in the last national poll.

The Gulls are undeterred in the face of top-notch competition

By Noah Wood

The Salisbury Sea Gulls narrowly lost to the Catholic Cardinals 85 - 97 in double-overtime on Wednesday, Feb. 5 at Salisbury University.

The men's basketball game between Salisbury University, 5-15 overall (3-6 CAC) and Catholic University of America, 18-2 and going undefeated with nine wins in the Conference, was an intense struggle. The game began with the Cardinals gaining possession of the ball, and they led for the first part of the first half. However, the Sea Gulls made a strong comeback toward the end and the score was tied 33-33 by the end of the first half.

During the second half, the game really heated up. The Sea Gulls gained a strong early lead, but the Cardinals managed to catch up and take a slight lead once again.

Salisbury tied the score three times

in the last minutes of the game, finally matching Catholic with 73 points at the end of regulation, forcing the conference leaders into overtime.

The intensity never faltered in overtime. The Cardinals took the lead several times, yet the Sea Gulls were always quick to regain it. Freshman Justin Rice scored and put the game at 76-73. Freshman John Wulff (No.44) made the score 78-77 shortly after the Cardinals caught up again. Rice made a couple more baskets and slowly increased the Seagulls' lead to 82-78. However, Catholic managed to tie the game just before the end of overtime and the heated battle was taken into double-overtime.

Double overtime was when the Cardinals opened a significant 12-point lead

and beat out Salisbury for a very hard-fought victory. Despite the loss, Head Coach Steve Helms and the team were proud of their hard effort and teamwork against the strength of a very tough opponent.

"Catholic is the number one team in the Conference," said Holmes. "I feel that overall we fought tooth and nail and we had an opportunity to win the game, and that's all you want against any team you play, let alone the top team in the nation."

The game did not deter their hope for more success in the season, and it gave them confidence for future games.

"We played them so closely last night that it shows we can play with them and anyone else in the Conference," said senior captain Greg Cooper. "Once you

get to the Conference Tournament, all records are thrown out. Whoever wins the Conference Tournament goes to the NCAA Tournament."

The fact that they could compete so closely to a team of Catholic's caliber attests a great deal to the Sea Gulls' skill and work ethic.

"We played hard and we gave it everything we had, but we just couldn't pull it out. But it was the best game we played together all year," said Rice.

The Sea Gulls will play several more games before the Capital Athletic Conference Tournament begins later in the month, and their teamwork will help them overcome the challenges that the opposition has to offer.

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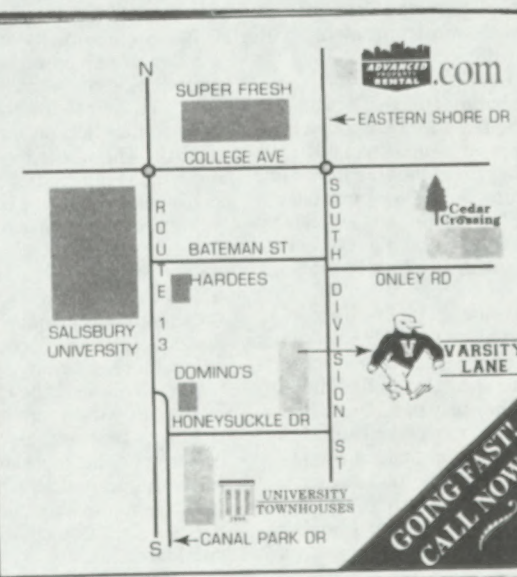
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Experienced Gulls look ahead in 2003

Men's Lacrosse

By Adam Harrow

Power, triumph, toughness, endurance and dedication are just some of the many characteristics that the 2003 Salisbury Men's Lacrosse team exhibits; and one thing is for sure, with eight starters and nine of its top 10 scorers returning this year, the men's lacrosse team will most definitely not come up short on experience.

The team will have a great vantage point in 2003. With all the experience on the team Salisbury finds themselves ranked 4th in *Inside Lacrosse's* 2003 preseason coaches poll, closely behind the top three: Middlebury, Gettysburg and Washington. Over the past few years Salisbury has made a name for themselves on the playing field, and their consistent success has continued to pave the way for the future. The three-time national champion Salisbury team was able to make it all the way to the NCAA quarterfinals last year before suffering a loss, and this year, they hope to further that goal and strive for their 4th national title in just 10 years.

Coach Jim Berkman is looking forward to a successful year as he enters his 15th season at Salisbury. Over the past 14

seasons, Berkman has become worthy of an immense reputation, leading the team to eight straight conference titles and 14 straight NCAA playoff births. In his career at Salisbury, Berkman has achieved an overall record of 197-28 with a win percentage of .876 and this year he will be looking for his 200th win, a big achievement for any lacrosse coach.

"We have a lot of depth and experience at just about every position," Berkman said. "With so many returning veterans, I think the players have some high expectations for what we can accomplish this season."

On attack Salisbury will be returning all three of its starters, along with two others who saw much playing time last season. However, one name stands out the most on the Salisbury offense, Andy Arnold. With 36 goals and 27 assists, Andy was the leading scorer in 2003 and he looks to be a huge part of the Salisbury offense this season. Andy earned All-America status last season as an honorable mention and he looks to earning the same status again this season as a possible first team or second team All-American. Rounding out the

team's three returning starters are Corey O'Neil and Joe Tamberrino, who both look very fresh at the outset of this season.

"We're very deep on attack and the challenge will be to find a way to get all of these guys on the field," says Berkman. "I think we will do a better job of moving the ball and be a better shooting team this season."

The midfield for Salisbury will be no different than from previous years. Salisbury has always featured one of the most skilled midfields every season and this season will be no exception. Andy Murray, a junior who exemplified Salisbury in 2002, will be returning for the team. After earning first-team All-American status and becoming the Capital Athletic Conference's Player of the Year in 2002, things just keep getting better for him. Two team captains will also be returning at midfield in 2003, Scott Simmons and Chris Lauer, who have both proven to be effective and productive midfield scorers.

With a younger defensive squad, Salisbury looks to capitalize quickly on early-season mistakes. Last year the team's defense allowed an average of 7.6 goals per

game, which ranked them 13th nationally. Sophomore Jeff Bigas will be coming off a great rookie season and looks ahead to a possible All-American spot this year with his continued success in play. Juniors Eric Martin and Evan Howard will also be returning this season, with Martin winning an honorable mention in 2002 and Howard being named the Capital Athletic Conference's Most Improved Player. With a profoundly bottomless defense this year, the Sea Gulls can play any of about six different guys and have no drop-off in ability.

All in all, with an experienced and decorated squad, Salisbury looks to another possible national title in 2003. With four returnees previously having earned All-American status and a great coach, the team will function effectively from great leadership skills and a tight overall bond. Salisbury's first game of the season will be Feb. 22 against Catholic, so everyone get out and support the team. It's set to be another great season!

Marching Closer to Madness

By Michael Fletcher

#1 Arizona (17-2) - Led by seniors Jason Gardner and Luke "Son of Bill" Walton, the Wildcats are ready for a trip back to the Final Four. Despite an overtime squeaker against Washington, 88-85, the Wildcats have looked very impressive lately. Look for them to take the Pac-10 Championship this year because of their high powered and explosive offense.

#2 Louisville (17-1) - The Cardinals quietly have the best winning percentage in college basketball. The resurgence of the Cardinals has come from defensive-minded coach Rick Pitino and his array of different defensive schemes. Sweet shooting guard Reece Gaines has paced the offense, averaging 18.1 points and 5.3 assists.

#3 Kentucky (17-3) - Kentucky is rising in the charts after a big upset win over then #1 ranked Florida. Since losing to Louisville on Dec. 28, the Wildcats have racked up eleven straight wins and have looked very impressive. Look for them to make a run at the Final Four come March.

#4 Florida (18-3) - After claiming the top spot in the AP Poll last week, Florida slips a few spots with a disappointing 70-55 trouncing by Kentucky. Freshman sensation Matt Walsh and Senior Matt Bonner have paced the well balanced Gator offense. The Gators have the most pure talent in college basketball this season, including the athletic David Lee.

#5 Pittsburgh (16-2) - The Panthers are on top of the Big East behind the leadership of senior point guard Brandin Knight. Knight has struggled at the free throw line this season, hitting only 43 percent, but has continued to be the great Floor General that he is. The Panthers have a big test on Feb. 9 - a showdown with Big East Rival Notre Dame.

#6 Oklahoma (15-3) - The Sooners were picked to go to the Final Four at the beginning of the year by most sports writers, but have struggled to find their offensive touch. They play swarming defense, led by all Conference superstar Hollis Price. Look for the Sooners to make a run at the Final Four, because everyone knows that defense wins championships.

#7 Texas (14-4) - The Longhorns have been unable to sustain their good play,

and they lost a disappointing game to Colorado 93-80 earlier this week. They are led by sophomore All-American point guard T.J. Ford, who averages 14.8 points, while dishing out 7.1 assists per game. Look for Ford to carry his team on his back going into the tournament.

#8 Kansas (16-5) - The Jayhawks have continued to climb the charts with big wins over #7 Texas (90-87) and #16 Missouri (76-70). Led by All-Americans Kirk Hinrich and Nick Collison, the Jayhawks are serious contenders to cut down the nets this year at the Final Four. Collison had a monster game against Texas, scoring 24 points and a career high 23 rebounds. Look for them to use this momentum and capture the Big 12 Championship.

#9 Duke (15-3) - Despite arguments from Terps fans, the Blue Devils take the #9 slot this week because of Maryland's upset loss to Virginia on Feb. 6. Despite this seed, the Blue Devils need to learn how to play away from Cameron in order for them to be competitive in March. Junior point guard Chris Duhon needs to do a better job of handling the ball. Also he is only shooting 21% from behind the arc this year. Dahntay Jones has been impressive at times, but needs to be more consistent. Freshmen Shavlik Randolph and sharp shooting guard J.J. Reddick have shown signs of brilliance this season, and they will make Duke difficult to beat in the upcoming years.

#10 Oklahoma State - (18-2) The Cowboys are quietly at top of the Big 12 standings, with powerhouses #6 Oklahoma and #8 Kansas behind them. They have struggled on offense this season but have done a great job on the defensive side of the ball. They are led by Veteran coach and motivator Eddie Sutton, who has seen it all in his years of college basketball coaching. Whatever play is run on offense goes through the hands of junior guard Tony Allen, who averages 16.1 points, 5.2 rebounds and 2.8 assists a game. Look for those numbers to increase as the season progresses and he becomes more comfortable with the Cowboy offense.

This year, the Championship is up in the air, with a number of teams in the running. Brackets and seeds will be very important in the tournament. As stated before, offense will win games, but defense wins championships, so look for a solid defensive team to cut down the nets come late March.

BLACK HISTORY DINNER

Deep Fried Catfish • Southern Fried Chicken • BBQ Ribs • Chitterlings • Mashed Potatoes with Gravy • Macaroni & Cheese • Potato Salad • Coleslaw • Collards with Ham Hocks • Corn Bread • Sweet Potato Biscuits • Banana Pudding • Sweet Potato Pie • Peach Cobbler

ENTERTAINMENT BY THE BERNARD SWEETNEY TRIO

5-7 P.M.

IN THE BISTRO

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

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